October 2012 Webcast for District Education

Below is a complete written summary and digital copy (audio and video) of the October 21st, 2012 webcast for **District CIOs and Education Technology Leaders. This month the webcast** was conducted from **James T. Alton Middle School in the Hardin County school district.**

You can get to both the Video and Audio links for this webcast through our webpage at:

Video and audio   mms://video1.education.ky.gov/DTL_10-16-2012

Downloadable audio podcast   http://media.education.ky.gov/video1/On-Demand2012/DTL_10-16-2012.mp3

The webcast is approximately 1 hour and 36 minutes.   The numbers in **red** below indicate he time stamp for discussion on the audio and video segment of the broadcast.

Summary

00:15 Introductions and district information: From **KDE** we have **David Couch.** We also have **Phil Coleman, and Dede Connor** who are directors at KIDS. Also attending today is **Chuck Austin from the KIDS Office** and the **KETS Engineer for Region 2, Bruce Lindsey Wells. Andy Liaupsin and Clint Goins** are running the equipment on the other side of the camera.

From **Hardin County** we have **Superintendent Nannette Johnson who has been in Hardin County for 30 years.**

Hardin County is the 4th largest county in Kentucky. They have approximately 14,500 students. They have 22 schools and several alternative schools. It is a mixed suburban-rural county. It is an overall growth district. They were affected by the **Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission** with Ft. Knox moving from a training facility to a combat facility.

The official webpage for the Hardin County school district can be found at: http://www.hardin.k12.ky.us/

The Wikipedia entry for the house can be found at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardin_County,_Kentucky

State Senator Dennis Parrett has joined us today as well. He learned a lot while serving on the joint Student Technology Access Task Force. **Senator Parrett** would like to see another push for funding for early childhood education. He understands that we as a state need to make sure that we have adequate bandwidth for our students.

7:54 Kentucky Digital Textbook Project: Tim from Hardin County presented an overview of this project that started in Hardin County and can be used throughout the state. They convert textbooks to a digital format and then have additional material and tools added to make it much

more than just a printed textbook. It is a Moodle based system and can be modified for local needs.

Tim had two students demonstrate the program to the audience and content they had developed so they can learn at their own pace and still have teacher oversight.

19:16   IBook content for the K-12 environment: David noted that as textbook companies and newer players need to make sure that the price points come down and those they make their products usable on multiple platforms.

21:40   Use of Real-time Tool Gosoapbox: David wanted to redo the gosoapbox.com platform demo that will be used in this and future webcasts.

Marty Park gave a video overview of the tool. You can find the video on iTunesU at: https://itunes.apple.com/us/itunes-u/district-technology-leadership/id421175213

David posed two questions for the audience using Gosoapbox:

- **Are digital textbooks on your district's radar screen? What is your district's delivery mechanism and strategy for e-books?**

eBooks (Digital Textbooks): How big is this movement? What level of importance (strategically) is this for your district?

CHOICE	VOTES	%
Not on the radar.	13	18%
Starting to gain some speed.	51	70%
Major driving force for decisions in the near future.	9	12%

eBooks (Digital Textbooks): What delivery mechanism makes the most sense for your district?

CHOICE	VOTES	%
Classroom Only - projection for whole group	14	19%
District funded 1:1 Initiative	12	16%
District supported BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)	39	53%
Home Internet access only.	1	1%
Other...	7	10%

Hardin County chose **Moodle** because it works on every web based platform. They are focusing on content rather than platform. Making sure that the provided content is a quality product and helps in educating the students.

David stated that over the last few years parents have acknowledged that students do not need to bring home textbooks to make sure they are learning and have become more comfortable with using digital media.

31:00 **David** noted that **the Kentucky Board of Education approved the KETS Master Plan.** The **2013-2018 KETS Master Plan** is the 4th version. It is closely tied to the Kentucky's education priorities and the strategic plan of the State Board. It can be viewed at: **http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Technology/Master+Plan/**

Senator Parrett wanted to add that as the legislature meets in January and begins the process of trying to figure out how these technologies will play a role in the educational life of Kentucky's students that it is one of the goals that all students have access to these technologies and that we make sure that all students can use these technologies. We also need to make sure that the curriculum is consistent and certified to be used by all students.

37:30: **Office365 update:** **Chuck Austin** lead a discussion regarding the planned upgrade of **Live@Edu to Office365** and some of the new features. Kentucky was the first to move to the cloud based Live@Edu and will be soon moving to the newer version with some additional org owned collaborative tools that can be used in the classroom. An example of this is the **Lync video based collaboration tool** based upon the **MS SharePoint collaborative software**. We are in the process of working on how this new system is put in place for K-12 in Kentucky.

Going forward districts will be able to decide what tools, at what levels, and how they are able to provision these new tools. We plan on migrating faculty and staff to the new system first and then in the spring/summer - migrate the students.

Each district will be getting 3 pilot/test accounts so they can test the new system via the KEs.

David noted that in particular the video conferencing component, Lync will be a vast improvement on previous attempts such as **Kentucky TeleLinking** Network (KTLN) that was expensive, complex and hard to schedule.

David stated that by having an easier way to video conference districts can better share resources and save money on travel and even provide recorded sessions for later use.

Chuck wanted to remind everyone that even as we migrate to this new version that you will not lose what you currently have such as the **Skydrive**. **David** wants us to make sure the word gets out and to make sure those superintendents, principals, teachers and others in their districts know they have this tool and the new tools such as the MS Office Web Application that can be used even outside of their districts.

Chuck added that we will soon be sending out to the districts more information and documentation via **their KEs.**

- **Microsoft Office 365 Demonstration: Which of the major components in the Office 365 are your district customers most interested in?**

What is the most exciting component of Office 365 for Edu for your students, teachers, & administrators?

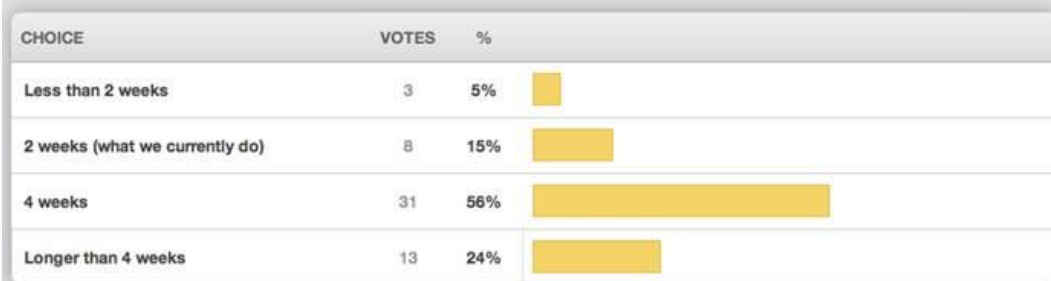| CHOICE	VOTES	%	
Lync Web Conferencing and Digital Meeting Spaces.	27	41%	
SharePoint Online (Org owned document storage and workflow).	13	20%	
The enhanced use of SkyDrive for personal storage.	6	9%	
The free use of Microsoft Office Web Apps (in browser document editing).	17	26%	
Enhanced Email capabilities.	3	5%	

54:30 Microsoft Explorer Web Browser upgrade: Phil wanted to remind districts that we will be updated in the next few months before we migrate to Office 365.

Bruce mentioned that the most asked question is what is the Skydrive version of Office 365 – Chuck replied that from now on that there will always be regular upgrades/enhanced including the Skydrive as well as Office Suite with new stuff and the services as well.

1:00:45 Infinite Campus updates: Recent updates have not gone well and as an authoritative source is an important part of the data network and is vital in making sure we have a quality product for our customers. We pay to have this software tested – how long will be need to have these software releases "bake" before we release it.

- **Future Infinite Campus (IC) software releases: How much time should an IC software release bake and cool before serving to KY customers?**

Given the poor quality of the past 2 IC releases, but the desire by your customers for new IC functionality, how much distance do your district's customers want between a major version of IC software being identified by IC as ready & KY waiting?

CHOICE	VOTES	%	
Less than 2 weeks	3	5%	
2 weeks (what we currently do)	8	15%	
4 weeks	31	56%	
Longer than 4 weeks	13	24%	

Infinite Campus: What is your view on the best release schedule for your users?

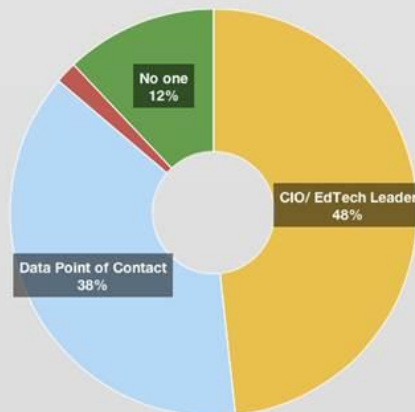| CHOICE	VOTES	%
Monthly (current) - the current schedule (brings new functionality fastest with some broken glass)	16	26%
Quarterly - (brings delayed releases/ functionality, but may minimize some broken glass)	38	61%
Semi Annually - (brings delayed releases/ functionality, but may minimize some broken glass)	8	13%
Annually - (greatest delay in releases, features, & updated functionality)	0	0%

David wanted the audience to know that IC should have the Quality Assurance in place to have a solid product for their updates/upgrades.

David noted that on October 23rd Dr. Holiday will have a webcast with district superintendents and one of the topics will be data quality. With every data element each district should have a data steward to make sure that the data is reviewed and correct before it gets entered into the system as well as mentor and work with those personnel that enters that data into various systems. Each district should also have a data champion who helps to make sure that districts make data quality a priority – complete and accurate as possible.

- **Data Quality in districts: Who in your district is overall responsible for data quality leadership?**

Every district needs a person who regularly provides leadership, mentoring & guidance to all the district's data stewards & clerks. What person in your district is overall responsible for data quality leadership regardless of the data system?

No one 12%

CIO/ EdTech Leader 48%

Data Point of Contact 38%

Vote Counts

CIO/ EdTech Leader: 28 votes

Data Point of Contact: 22 votes

Superintendent: 1 vote

No one: 7 votes

DeDe wanted to emphasize that even with making sure that multiple types of contacts got the word that districts verify their data that only about 100 districts made the effort to verify their data.

1:20:50 Area Technology Centers: David reviewed the progress that has been made on transitioning those centers to KDE oversight and had the following question for the audience.

- **ATC's transition from Workforce to K12: Is each host district ready, willing and able to provide technical support for the workstations of the adults in their ATC beginning in the near future?**

David notes that it is his experience that the closer the ATC are to the district, the better relationship they have and conversely the farther away they are the in different worlds and the less the relationship.

Phil noted that we have asked districts to create district based email accounts for those adults/teachers in the ATCs they have in their districts and that has been done. There have been funds identified and are currently plans to make sure that the ATCs get new workstations for the adult employees. The ATCs will work with their districts on this.

1:31:10 MUNIS migration: 173 districts will be migrated to the cloud version of the MUNIS by the end of December 2012.

1:31:29 Status of RFPs for the next version of the high speed network: We are on target for this RFP to be completed/awarded by December and we are also on target to have the **Data and Voice Systems to be completed by the end of December 2012.**

1:32:15 Last month's CIO-District Webcast in Floyd County was the highest watched and attended webcast. Every webcast is recorded and can be watched or read by anyone.

1:33:45 DeDe noted that the KSIS newsletter has all the information you need regarding **KSIS.** The **ACT results for 2012 are in the CIITS system** and the 14.2 release coming out in the next week.

Regional STLP events:

Fall Showcase Dates Schools may attend the showcase location of choice:
November 7 Murray State University Showcase, Curris Center
November 8 University of Kentucky Showcase, Student Center Ballroom
November 13 University of Louisville Showcase, Student Activities Center
November 15 Northern Kentucky University Showcase, Student Activities Center
November 20 The Center for Rural Development, Somerset
November 27 Morehead State University Showcase, Adron Doran University Center
November 28 Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center Showcase, Pikeville
December 6 Western Kentucky University Showcase, Diddle Arena

Tech Day in Kentucky on November 13th at NKU for P-20

Tech Day in Kentucky is next Tuesday. You can see the agenda of the event by going to
http://www.connectkentucky.org/_documents/Invite_Agenda_2012.pdf .

You can watch via the Internet by going to the following link:
http://www.connectkentucky.org/news_&_events/Tech_Day_In_Kentucky/2012_Tech_Day_in_Kentucky.php

Online School Report Card will be released on November 2nd

Question: Will Office 365 be functional across platforms?
Answer: Yes

Question: When you say you need a modern browser do you mean XP to 8 or Win 7 to 9 and make sure the online testing systems are compatible?
Answer: We intend to get all XP machines to MS Internet Explorer to version 8 and Windows 7 machines to MS Internet Explorer version 9.

Question: Will AD be Cloud based as part of Office 365 or separate?
Answer: Separate, but we will be exploring how we can do infrastructure as a service in the future as appropriate.

Question: Will our 13 year old students have any problems signing on to org owned tools such as Skydrive?
Answer: No, but the org owned Skydrive will not be available to students and districts until next March or so.

Question: Will this webcast be using Lync in the future?
Answer: We have two types of audiences. EdTech leaders within the K-12 network and others outside the network.

Question: Can major changes in IC be applied to Sandbox a few weeks before going Live so we can train our users on the new features? i.e. Behavior Module?
Answer: Districts were given the opportunity to use a sandbox test environment to test a new release/version at the same time KDE gets them.

Question: Why do we need to know the technical spec for workstation for the Technology Readiness Report/Survey?
Answer: David wanted to make sure that machines 5 years or less are being counted in the report.

These summaries are designed to serve as a communication tool. We hope you will cut, paste, edit or change and forward any or all of the below in order to suit your needs.